AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete paragraph [018] from the specification as follows:

~~Figure 6 is an illustration of performance curves for various embodiments of the traces illustrated in Figure 5.~~

Please amend the heading on Page 5 as follows:

--**OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS**-- after **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**.

Please replace paragraph [029] on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

[029]   To model the effects of distributed compensation tables on the transmission line, simulation models were built using a 2D field solver which accurately predicts all of the coupling mechanisms between parallel trace and compensation tab segments. The experiment compared four traces, illustrated in Figure 5 by reference numerals 1-4, with four different routing strategies all at an equal length of three inches from end to end. Of the three inches, only one ~~inen~~ inch of each trace contained serpentine bends, compensation tabs or a combination of both while the straight trace, trace #2, was modeled as perfectly straight. The traces were 5 mil side 50 ohm microstrip terminated into a matched 50 ohm load and excited with a signal swing of 1V and a rise time of 75 picoseconds. ~~The simulation results in Figure 6 show the delay differences for the four traces.~~

Please replace paragraph [033] on pages 8-9 with the following amended paragraph:

[033] The compensation tabs may introduce slight impedance discontinuities; however, due to their short length and distributed nature, the impact on signal quality is very negligible. Also, due to their orientation, the compensation tabs seem to provide some guard-banding effect at higher frequencies when used within serpentine traces. While excellent results were obtained using compensation tabs oriented perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the conductors, it is also possible to use compensation tabs at

other angles, as illustrated by tabs 145 and 146 in ~~Trace #5~~ <u>Trace #4</u> of Figure 5. Moreover, a combination of geometries including arcs or various cascading sizes can be used in a similar fashion.